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# Supporting early maths

From a very young age, children can show an interest in mathematical thinking

Early childhood teachers can use a combination of free play and guided play techniques to introduce key numeracy and spatial skills

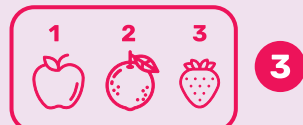
## Numeracy skills include:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5,  
once I caught a fish alive

Learning number names and numerals



Understanding one-to-one correspondence, as in counting objects aloud



Understanding cardinality - the number of elements in a mathematical set



Learning to apply numerals to represent quantities



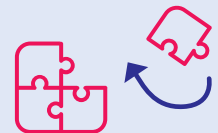
Becoming flexible with counting, for example counting right to left, or skip counting



Understanding symbolic relations like simple sums

Spatial skills involve visual-spatial working memory for remembering and mentally manipulating spatial information

## Spatial skills include:



Mental rotation, such as fitting jigsaw pieces



Patterning skills, such as alternating coloured beads

Shape knowledge



## Explore maths concepts through:



Everyday materials like blocks or beads

Games and books



Everyday activities and situations like baking

Songs and movement

